

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q83554

Shinobu TAKAGI, et al.

Appln. No.: Based on PCT/JP03/010428

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: February 22, 2005

Examiner: Unknown

For: METAL COMPONENT FOR FUEL CELL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AUSTENITIC STAINLESS STEEL FOR POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL AND METAL COMPONENT FOR FUEL CELL USING THE SAME, POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL MATERIAL AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME, CORROSION-RESISTANT CONDUCTIVE COMPONENT AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AND FUEL CELL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
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later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a translation of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP03/010428 mailed December 2, 2003), indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Additionally, computer generated English translations, submitted herewith, constitute concise statements of relevance for Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 2001-68129, 2001-228914, 2000-256808, and 2001-243962.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

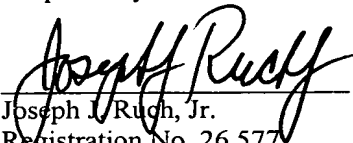
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Registration No. 26,577

Date: February 22, 2005

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				10/525234 Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	Based on PCT/JP03/010428
				Confirmation Number	Unknown
				Filing Date	February 22, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Shinobu TAKAGI
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	Q83554

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,379,476	B1	04-30-2002	Yoshio Tarutani, et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	2001-68129	A	03-16-2001	AISIN SEIKI CO LTD	Yes
		JP	2000-21418	A	01-21-2000	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	10-228914	A	08-25-1998	AISIN TAKAOKA LTD	Yes
		JP	2000-256808	A	09-19-2000	NIPPON STEEL CORP	Yes
		JP	2001-243962	A	09-07-2001	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Yes
		JP	2001-297777	A	10-26-2001	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	2001-345109	A	12-14-2001	AISIN TAKAOKA LTD	Abstract
		JP	2002-75399	A	03-15-2002	HITACHI LTD HITACHI METALS LTD	Abstract
		JP	2000-323151	A	11-24-2000	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	2002-190305	A	07-05-2002	NIPPON STEEL CORP	Abstract
		JP	2000-309854	A	11-07-2000	SUMITOMO METAL IND LTD	Abstract
		JP	2000-328200	A	11-28-2000	SUMITOMO METAL IND LTD	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		"Electroplated coatings of silver for engineering purposes" JIS H8621: 1998	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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[illegible][illegible][illegible]**Date Considered**

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.